

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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APPROVED BY: S/S-O:O;DLMACK

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P 061812Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 055625

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL REPEAT OF AMMAN 1246 TO SECSTATE INFO RABAT TEHRAN MAR 6

QTE:

S E C R E T AMMAN 1246

EXDIS

DEPT REPEAT USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS JO MO IR US

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO

REF (A) STATE 055551, (B) STATE 055552 (C) RABAT 1212

1.PARAS 2 AND 3 RF A INDICATE THT JORDAN CAN NOW PROVIDE
USG WITH NO-TRANSFER ASSURANCES ON (A) 16 155 MM
HOWITZERS FROM IRAN AND (B) Y F-5A'S ALSO FROM IRAN.
WE UNDERSTAND ASSURANCES ON (A) CAN BE PROVIDED IN
ABSENCE OF FINAL MOROCCAN-IRANIAN AGREEMENT ON REPLACEMENT
WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT JORDAN ASSURANCES CAN BE
PROVIDED IN CONTINUING ABSENCE GOI WRITTEN REQUEST FOR
SUCH TRANSFER ON UNDERSTANDING THAT SUCH ASSURANCES CAN BE
VOIDED (RFTL B PARA 1) IF ARRANGEMENTS DO NOT WORK

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OUT. WHILE JORDANIAN ASSURANCES ARE LIKELY TO BE

DATED AND MIGHT THEREFORE BE SUBJECT OF RAISED EYEBROWS IN CONGRESS IF LETTERS ARE FORWARDED IN WHICH JORDANIAN ASSURANCES ARE RECEIVED BY USG IN ADVANCE OF IRANIAN REQUEST FOR TRANSFER, WE WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED AS INDICATED. WE BELIEVE SEPARATE LETTERS FOR HOWITZERS AND F-5A WOULD BE APPROPRIATE GIVEN FACT THAT REPLACEMENT PROBLEMS MAY DELAY HOWITZERS.

2. PLEASE FORWARD SOONEST SUGGESTED TEXT WHICH JORDANIANS CAN USE IN PROVIDING SUCH ASSURANCES TO USG. TEXT ACCORDING TO CINC JAF LT GEN BIN SHAKER WILL BE SIGNED BY CHIEF OF STAFF MAJOR GEN MOHAMMED IDRIS.

3. IF DEPARTMENT HAS PREFERRED FORM FOR REQUEST FOR FURTHER TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT FROM JORDAN TO MOROCCO (REF TEL B PARA 2) SUGGEST WE ALSO BE PROVIDED WITH THIS. JORDANIANS STILL UNDER IMPRESSION MATERIAL MUST PHYSICALLY TRANSIT JORDAN, ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE IT MORE IMPORTANT THAT MOROCCANS AND IRANIANS WORK THIS OUT DIRECTLY. WE ARE UNDER ASSUMPTION THAT IRAN WOULD STILL PREFER MATERIAL PHYSICALLY ARRIVE IN JORDAN IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE IRANIAN BONA FIDES THAT MATERIAL IS FOR JORDAN AND IT IS UP TO JORDAN TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH IT (IE SHIP TO MOROCCO) NOT IRAN.

4. WE ALSO NOTE THAT IN PARA 5, REFTEL C RABAT COMMENTS THAT MOROCCANS COULD REPLACE JORDANIAN F-5 A FROM THEIR OWN FLEET SHOULD ANY BE LOST. WE BELIEVE JORDANIANS WILL INSIST ON "REPLACEMENT" OR ALTERNATIVELY BY F-5A BY F-5E SHOULD FORMER NOT BE POSSIBLE. UNDER MOST FORESEEABLE CIRCUMSTANCES WE AGREE THAT JORDANIAN F-5A IN ROUGHLY COMPARABLE CONDITION. HOWEVER JORDANIANS ARE ALSO AWARE THAT SITUATION MIGHT DEVELOP IN WHICH THROUGH USE SUPERIOR FORCE ON THE ALGERIAN SIDE AIRCRAFT OF BOTH COUNTRIES COULD BE MOST OR A SUFFICIENT NUMBER LOST OR DESTROYED ON THE GROUND WHERE F-5E WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR REPLACEMENT. THEREFORE WE STILL BELIEVE
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IT PROCEED TO CONSIDER LATTER AS AN OUTSIDE POSSIBILITY (F-5E FOR F-5A) WHEN QUESTION OF REPLACEMENT IS WORKED OUT BETWEEN GOM AND GOJ.
PICKERING UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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NNN

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